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NEWS RELEASE

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Public Invited to Comment on Courthouse Building Priorities

San Francisco—The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) is seeking comment from the courts and public on a new method for prioritizing the list of California trial court facilities that need to be rebuilt or renovated.

Courthouses throughout California need significant repairs, and the resources are inadequate to fund every project. This new prioritization method will enable the state to evaluate prospective construction projects on the basis of a set of simplified, focused criteria. The new method will be applied to the current *Trial Court Capital Outlay Plan*, producing a revised ranking of capital projects. Those rankings will guide future funding requests.

The AOC anticipates presenting the final version of the proposed methodology to the Judicial Council in June and revising the *Trial Court Capital Outlay Plan* over the summer.

Interested parties may submit the [Comment Form](#) by the Monday, April 10, deadline. The Judicial Council's current *Trial Court Five-Year Capital Outlay Plan*—a list of 201 needed courthouse projects statewide—is available online at <http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/reference/fiveyear.htm>.

More information on the new courthouse project and details on submitting questions and offers are posted to the California courts Web site at http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/occm/projects_contracosta.htm.

The Judicial Council is the policymaking body of the California courts, the largest court system in the nation. Under the leadership of the Chief Justice and in accordance with the California Constitution, the council is responsible for ensuring the consistent, independent, impartial, and accessible administration of justice. The Administrative Office of the Courts carries out the official actions of the council and promotes leadership and excellence in court administration.